

IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) Component according to claim 19, wherein the composite is prefabricated as a profiled rod material further comprising carbon fibers.

4. (Currently amended) Component according to claim 19, wherein the ~~composite further comprises~~ polymer material is PAEK (poly-aryl-ether ketone).

5. (Previously presented) Component according to claim 3, wherein the carbon fibers and the X-ray absorbing fibers are designed as continuous fibers and/or fibers with a length exceeding 3 mm.

6. (Currently amended) Component according to claim 19, wherein the fibers are enveloped by a matrix of the polymer or ceramic material.

7. (Previously presented) Component according to claim 19, wherein the X-ray absorbing fibers comprise a nonmagnetic material.

8. (Previously presented) Component according to claim 19, wherein the X-ray absorbing fibers are made from materials selected from the group consisting of: tantalum, tungsten, gold, and platinum.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) Component according to claim 19, wherein the fibers are oriented differently depending on the longitudinally or transverse oriented alignment of the component (1, 18).

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A surgically implantable biocompatible component comprising:

a composite of polymer or ceramic material;

X-ray absorbing reinforcing fibers distributed throughout the composite, wherein an orientation of the X-ray absorbing reinforcing fibers is tailored to a shape and application of the surgically implantable biocompatible component (1, 18) in a defined manner to provide X-ray visibility control for the surgically implantable biocompatible component; and

carbon fibers, wherein a total fiber percentage in the composite remains constant over a length or width of the biocompatible component, which changes a ratio of carbon fibers (6) to X-ray absorbing fibers (6).

13. (Previously presented) Component in the form of a connecting element according to claim 19, wherein the stiffness of the connecting element can be varied by varying the orientation of fibers from a force application point toward a free end of the component.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) A surgically implantable biocompatible component in the form of a strip or plate assembly part comprising:

a composite of polymer or ceramic material;

X-ray absorbing reinforcing fibers distributed throughout the composite, wherein an orientation of the X-ray absorbing reinforcing fibers is tailored to a shape and application of the surgically implantable biocompatible component (1, 18) in a defined manner to provide X-ray visibility control for the component;

wherein a concentration of fibers (6) is present in an area (A) of one or more recesses (14) or holes in the biocompatible component (18), and wherein the percentage of the X-ray absorbing fibers is reduced in the area (A).

16. – 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A surgically implantable biocompatible component comprising:

a composite of polymer or ceramic material;

reinforcing fibers, wherein at least some of the reinforcing fibers are X-ray absorbing reinforcing fibers distributed throughout the composite, wherein an orientation of the X-ray absorbing reinforcing fibers is tailored to a shape and application of the surgically implantable biocompatible component (1, 18) in a defined manner to provide X-ray visibility control for the biocompatible component, a concentration of the X-ray absorbing fibers is varied in different areas of the biocompatible component.